



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Chemicals, Metals Forest-based & Textile Industries  
**Chemicals**

Brussels, 25 June 2007  
**M / 413 EN**

## **STANDARDISATION MANDATE**

**ADDRESSED TO CEN**  
**for**

### **METHODS OF ANALYSIS TO DETECT POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS (PAH) IN EXTENDER OILS.**

#### **1. MOTIVATION.**

This mandate falls within the scope of European legislation in particular Directive 76/769/EEC of the Council of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations including the successive amendments and technical adoption progress.

Directive 76/769/EEC aims to ensure the free circulation of goods on the Internal Market whilst ensuring a high level of protection of human health and the environment.

Directive 2005/69/EC regarding restrictions on the marketing and use of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) in extender oils and tyres was published in the Official Journal in December 2005. Tyres are produced using extender oils that may contain PAHs not added intentionally. Due to the fact that PAH can be incorporated during the production process into the rubber matrix, they can be present in various amounts in the final products. The presence of PAHs can be detected qualitatively and quantitatively using Benzo(a) Pyrene (BaP) as marker. BaP and PAHs are dangerous substances classified according to the Directive 67/548/EEC as carcinogenic, mutagenic and toxic for reproduction.

According to the UNECE Protocol 1998 to the Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the emission of PAHs is required to be reduced. The restrictions on the market and use of PAH-rich extender oils and blends used as extender oils for the production of tyres adopted by Directive 2005/69/EC, will contribute to reduce the amount of the total emission into the environment of BaP and PAHs.

Directive 2005/69/EC imposes certain limit values of BaP and PAHs contained in extender oils placed on the market and used for the production of tyres or parts of tyres. These limit values respectively of 1 mg/kg of BaP and 10 mg/kg of the sum of eight different PAHs listed in point 50 of Annex I to Directive 76/769/EEC must be detected with appropriate

standard methods, in order to monitor compliance of preparations, articles and part of them that can be used by authorities and industry.

Reference methods would be used to determine the content of BaP and PAHs in extender oils used placed on the market and used for the production of tyres or parts thereof. The establishment of standardised reference methods is of utmost importance to guarantee a uniform application and control of Community legislation in all Member States. Standardised and validated reference methods are an indispensable element in guaranteeing a high level of chemicals safety, and are the references against which other methods can be validated.

## **2. DESCRIPTION OF THE MANDATED WORK.**

As these reference methods are not currently available, the Directive 2005/69/EC notes that the development of harmonised test methods should be entrusted to the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN).

This mandate in particular seeks to create analytical standard methods that will allow to determine whether the limit values of BaP and PAHs laid down in Directive 2005/69/EC are met or not.

The Commission therefore mandates CEN to produce standards of methods of analysis for the determination of the content of BaP and PAHs (as listed in the Annex I to the Directive 2005/69/EC) in extender oils placed on the market and used for the production of tyres or parts of tyres. These are in particular: 1mg/kg of BaP and 10 mg/kg of the sum of eight PAHs listed in point 50 of Annex I to the Directive 2005/69/EC, contained in extender oils placed on the market and used for the production of tyres or parts of tyres.

## **3. BODIES TO BE ASSOCIATED**

As appropriate, CEN will invite the representative organisations of consumers interests (ANEC<sup>1</sup>), environmental protection (ECOS<sup>2</sup>), workers (ETUI-REHS<sup>3</sup>), small and medium-size enterprises (NORMAPME<sup>4</sup>) to take part in the elaboration of the standards.

## **4. EXECUTION OF THE REQUEST**

- 4.1 CEN will provide the Commission with a detailed work programme and a timetable for the adoption of the standards needed within 3 months of the acceptance of the mandate. The European standards will have to be adopted by the dates in the work programme, but in any case no longer than 3 years from submission of the work

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1 European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation

2 European Environmental Citizens Organisations for Standardisation

3 European Trade Union Institute - Research, Education, Health and Safety

4 European Office of Crafts, Trades and Small and Medium- Sized Enterprises for Standardisation

programme. On these dates, the three linguistic versions (DE, EN, FR) must be available as well as the correct titles in the other official Community languages.

- 4.2 CEN will keep the Commission informed at least once a year following the submission of the work programme, of the measures taken to execute this mandate and of any difficulties which arise in the process.
- 4.3 Related work within CEN in connection with PAHs should be taken into account in the development of the standards under this mandate.
- 4.4 The standstill period referred to in Article 7 of Directive 98/34/EC (OJ L 217, 5.8.1998 p.18) shall commence when CEN accepts this standardisation mandate.